(b) in view of its significance for the tribal people of the country, will the Government declare it as a national festival;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Increasing activities of extremists and terrorists

†3913. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the activities being carried out by the extremists, terrorists and anti-nationals are constantly increasing in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that their activities in the States like Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand have increased so much that they are extorting money even from the local people and employees;

(c) whether it is a also a fact that no action is taken even after giving information on the contrary they are informed about it; and

(d) if so, the action proposed in the direction of doing away with this terror?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) It is not a fact that the activities of extremists, terrorists and anti-national elements are increasing in the country. There is a significant improvement in the situation in Jammu & Kashmir. In the North Eastern region, there is considerable improvement in the situation in some States such as Tripura and Meghalaya, while co-ordinated measures have been taken to check and control activities of militant groups in the other States in the region *viz.*, Assam, Manipur and Nagaland. In the naxal affected areas also the overall level of extremist violence has, more or less, remained at a similar level in the last few years and, has in fact, shown improvement in a number of areas but for a few major incidents in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand etc.

As far as terrorism in the hinterland is concerned, although some incidents have occurred in different States, close coordination is being maintained between the Central and State agencies, including regular sharing of information and intelligence. As a result, a large number of terrorist modules have been busted and possible major terrorist incidents averted.

(b) to (d) Law and order being a State subject, dealing with the various aspects/issues related to extremist/terrorist/Naxalite activities in a State primarily lies in the domain of the concerned State Government, and taking steps as appropriate and necessary is a continuous process. Crime related to extortion, etc., is registered, investigated and prosecuted by the State Government.

Concerned State Governments take necessary action to deal with such activities. The Central Government supplements their efforts and resources by a variety of measures

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

including enhanced intelligence sharing, strengthening of border management, augmenting the capabilities of police and security forces by providing advanced/sophisticated weapons, communication systems and training, reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure (SRE), assitance in training of State Police Forces and through various development schemes. The Government has also established bilateral and multilateral mechanisms to address the external imperatives of terrorism.

Foreign tourists abandoning their babies after birth

3914. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that instances have come to notice that some foreign tourists live in India on tourist visa, give birth to babies and go back abandoning children in this country;

(b) if so, the number of such children at present and whether their births are duly registered;

(c) if registered, what nationality is given to them in the record; and

(d) what is Government's stand on such children when the country is fighting hard to control growth of population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Maoist groups involved in violent riots of Orissa

†3915. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether para-millitary forces sent by Government are aware of the fact that Maoist/ Naxalite groups are involved in violent riots of Orissa;

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that a Swamiji has been ill-treated in Brahmani village in Orissa;

(c) whether it is a fact that as a result of said ill-treatment, there is a strong reaction amongst the people of scheduled tribes;

(d) wehther minotiry commission, which had gone there for investigation has visited only Kandhmal and has given its report; and

(e) whether some politicians are provoking scheduled castes people to get the facilities available to scheduled tribes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) 'Police' and 'public order' being State subjects, the responsibility for maintenance of law and order, including dealing with naxalite activities, lies primarily in the domain of the concerned State Government. It is primarily the

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